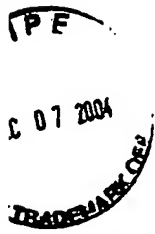


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi NOMURA
Group Art Unit : 2851
Appl. No. : 10/646,860
Examiner : Arthur A. SMITH
Filed : August 25, 2003
Confirmation No. : 1496
For : OPTICAL ELEMENT RETRACTING MECHANISM FOR A
PHOTOGRAPHING LENS

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed, Applicant hereby calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Applicant submits herewith a copy of an English language translation of an Office Action from the German Patent Office that was mailed on October 20, 2004 with respect to German Patent Application No. DE 103 52 969.1, which is a family member of commonly assigned (and duly cited) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0156832, in which the following documents were cited:

(1) European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 598 703, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,952,955; and

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